

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. – 78. (Cancelled)

79. (Currently amended) A payment method comprising:

receiving an order from a customer for a prepaid voucher;

said order specifying a selected one of a plurality of subscriber retailers;

said pre-paid voucher including voucher information identifying the selected subscriber
retailer;

receiving payment from said customer for said prepaid voucher via a computer network;

generating said prepaid voucher in response to receiving said order and said payment;

generating a token associated with said prepaid voucher;

associating said token with said prepaid voucher in a database;

~~indicating an unused status of said prepaid voucher in said database;~~

receiving a request for validation of said prepaid voucher from a redemption point, said
request including said token; and

~~confirming said unused status by said database with a query including said token~~
comparing said token in the request against the token associated with the prepaid voucher in the
database.

80. (Currently amended) The payment method of claim 79, further comprising:

providing a validation of said prepaid voucher to said redemption point in response to
~~confirming said unused status~~ a positive result of said comparison.
81. (Currently amended) The method of claim 80, further comprising:

receiving a notification of use of said voucher from said redemption point in response to
providing said validation; and

indicating a ~~used status~~ redemption of said prepaid voucher in said database in response
to receiving said notification of use.
82. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79, further comprising:

said order being received from said customer via the a computer network.
83. (Canceled)
84. (Canceled)
85. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79, wherein said generating said prepaid
voucher includes providing fields of an image of a retail gift voucher including voucher
information identifying said selected subscriber.
86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79, further comprising:

delivering said prepaid voucher to a recipient via postal service.
87. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79, further comprising:

delivering said prepaid voucher to said recipient via electronic mail.

88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79, wherein said token comprises a randomly generated token.

89. (Currently amended) An electronic commerce payment system comprising:

means for receiving an order from a customer for a prepaid goods/services item;

said order specifying a selected one of a plurality of subscriber retailers;

means for receiving payment from said customer for said prepaid voucher via a computer network;

means for generating said prepaid voucher in response to receiving said order and said payment;

said pre-paid voucher including voucher information identifying the selected subscriber retailer;

means for generating a token associated with said prepaid goods/services item;

means for associating said token with said prepaid goods/services item in a database;

~~means for indicating an unused status of said prepaid goods/services item in said database;~~

means for receiving a request for validation of said prepaid goods/services item from a redemption point, said request including said token; and

means for comparing said token in the request against the token associated with the prepaid voucher in the database ~~confirming said unused status by said database with a query including said token.~~

90. (Currently amended) An electronic commerce payment system comprising:

a computer network in communication with at least one database storing a list of subscriber retailers;

a website in communication with said network, said website configured to receive a customer order for a voucher from at least one of a plurality of subscribing retailers and to receive payment from said customer for said voucher;

said website in communication at said at least one database storing a list of said subscribing retailers wherein the customer order specifies a selected one of the subscribing retailers;

said website configured to cause generation of said voucher in response to said payment, and storage of information descriptive of said voucher in association with a token in said at least one database wherein said voucher includes voucher information identifying the selected subscriber retailer(s);

~~said at least one database including a used/unused status indicator associated with said token; and~~

a redemption system configured to communicate an indication of whether said voucher has been redeemed ~~said used unused status~~ to a subscribing retailer in said list of subscribing

retailers in response to an inquiry from said subscribing retailer, said inquiry including said token.

91. (Currently amended) The system of claim 90, further comprising:

said redemption system configured to ~~cause said used/unused status to indicate~~
redemption use of said voucher in response to said inquiry.

92. (Currently amended) The system of claim 91, further comprising:

said inquiry descriptive of a partial use of said voucher; and
said redemption system configured to ~~cause said used/unused status to indicate said~~
partial use of said voucher in response to said inquiry.

93. (Previously presented) The system of claim 90, further comprising:

a payment system in communication with said network, said payment system configured
to approve said payment.

94. (Previously presented) The system of claim 90, further comprising:

said at least one database including voucher image data for said voucher; and
said website configured to cause generation of a voucher image associated with said
voucher in accordance with said voucher image data.

95. (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising:

said voucher image is associated with each of said plurality of subscribing retailers.

96. (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising:

said website configured to receive a beneficiary designation for said voucher from said customer and to cause delivery of said voucher to said beneficiary.